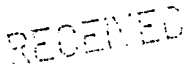


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For: DISPOSABLE SPACER FOR
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On Page 1, line 5, please insert the following paragraph: --The present application is a

divisional application of application Serial No. 09/425,394, filed October 22, 1999.--

The amendments to the specification are shown in bracket-underline format on